

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claim 2 is directed to allowable subject matter. An allowable feature of claim 2 has been integrated into claim 1. Therefore, allowance of claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom is deemed to be warranted.

Claims 3-15, 17, 21, and 22 stand withdrawn from consideration as directed to non-allowable subject matter. However, as each of these claims depends directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1, they are deemed also to be in allowable condition.

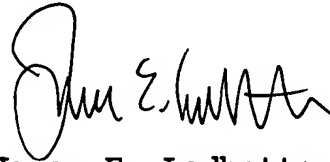
Claim 2 has been canceled. Withdrawn claims 3 and 4 have been amended to depend from claim 1, rather than canceled claim 2.

Claim 1 has been further amended such that all elements are in non-means-plus-function format.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 20, 2006
JEL/DWW/att

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